

The Arizona Children's Executive Committee

Fall 2008

ACEC PARTICIPANTS

State Agencies

Administrative Office of the Court (AOC)

Arizona Department of Education (ADE)

Arizona Department of Economic Security/Division of Developmental Disabilities (DES/DDD)

Arizona Department of Economic Security/Division of Children, Youth and Families (DES/DCYF)

Arizona Department of Health Services/Division of Behavioral Health Services (ADHS/DBHS)

Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections (ADJC)

Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS)

Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA)

Tribal & Regional Behavioral Health Authorities

Cenpatico

Community Partnership of Southern Arizona (CPSA)

Gila River Indian Community

Magellan

Northern Arizona Regional Behavioral Health Authority (NARBHA)

Pascua Yaqui Tribe

White Mountain Apache Tribe

Family Agencies & Parents

Family Involvement Center (FIC)

Mentally Ill Kids in Distress (MIKID)

Others

Arizona Center For Law in the Public Interest

Behavioral Health Planning Council (BHPC)

Children's Action Alliance

Family Members

Bringing together Arizona's child-serving agencies to collectively create & support an integrated system of care built on the Arizona Vision and 12 Principles

The Arizona Vision

In collaboration with the child, family and others, Arizona will provide accessible behavioral health services designed to aid children to achieve success in school, live with their families, avoid delinquency, and become stable and productive adults.

Services will be tailored to the child and family and provided in the most appropriate setting, in a timely fashion and in accordance with best practices, while respecting the child's family's cultural heritage.

HIGHLIGHTING OUR SUCCESSES

Infant Mental Health and CPSA

CPSA is actively working to support the mental health needs of infants and toddlers in our system. Historically, CPSA has overseen a local workgroup which acts as a "think tank" on birth to five issues for Pima County. The group is comprised of representatives from our three behavioral health children's networks, along with Child Protective Services, Healthy Families, Casa de los Niños, Easter Seals Blake Foundation, the Arizona Early Intervention Program (AzEIP), early childhood educators, infant/toddler mental health specialists and others. This successful collaboration of system partners has been convening since 1998. The group meets monthly and shares information on network services, supports to children birth to five, and reviews and addresses barriers to our behavioral health urgent response process. This process requires behavioral health to provide an expedited assessment to children who have been removed from their homes who are in the custody of Child Protective Services.

The Birth to Five Workgroup goals are:

- To increase the community goal of family reunification.
- To increase the knowledge of infant mental health and brain development within the Child and Family Team workforce and system wide.
- To ensure that each children's network effectively serves the 0-5 population through qualified staff trained in infant mental health.

Through State Infrastructure Grant (SIG) funding, CPSA provided an Infant Mental Health Series to our network staff and system partners last August and September. Over 500 participants were trained on a variety of issues, from screening and assessment to the foundations of infant mental health practice.

Many topics offered in the series are aligned with the competencies recognized through the Infant/Toddler Mental Health Coalition of Arizona's Endorsement System. CPSA plans to bring back the series again this year.

The Birth to Five Workgroup has spent the last year in collaboration with Pima County Juvenile Court Center to implement the Best for Babies Initiative, which promotes cross-systems collaboration to identify and address the needs of infants and toddlers in foster care. With our community partners, the Best for Babies Initiative seeks to build a shared understanding of the distinctly unique needs of infants and toddlers and create a better collaboration across services and systems so that we are more effective in our work.



COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Arizona Department of Education Parent Information Network

The Parent Information Network (PIN) is the cornerstone of Arizona Department of Education, Exceptional Student Services special education information, training, resources, and technical assistance for parents. In addition, Parent Information Network Specialists (PINS) cover every county in Arizona, providing Arizona's parents with information that is essential for them to actively participate in their child's education.

Parents and professionals can contact the PIN Specialist for their county for training opportunities for families and professionals through the PIN website at

www.azed.gov/ess/pinspals.

Parents and practitioners can also download invaluable special education printed material from the PIN Clearinghouse through the website.

Recently, the PIN developed a toll-free parent hotline at 877-230-PINS (7467), increasing the number of parent calls by at least 50%, with the promise of even greater outreach in the near future. Because PINS are parents of children with disabilities who have personally experienced the special education process, their assistance is highly regarded throughout the state.

PINS also encourage schools and communities to partner with families for positive student outcomes, and provide services to school districts, educators, college students, parent organizations, service providers, and community agencies. Some of the workshop topics available by county include; The Special Education Process, The IEP Process, Parents as Advocates, Disability Categories under IDEA '04, How to Start a Parent Group, Student Participation in the IEP, and Autism Spectrum Disorders.



For more information, or to order a quarterly copy of the PIN publication, Network News, call the PIN toll free line at 1-877-230-PINS or email PINS@azed.gov

SPECIAL EDUCATION WEBINARS

These special education webinars are open to families who would like training on special education or who have questions about their child's special education needs or issues.

The sessions will be held on:

- **October 2: 10am - 11:30am** (in English)
-scheduled for Navajo Services in Window Rock and MIKID at 2642 E. Thomas in Phoenix
- **October 2: 12pm - 1:30pm** (in Spanish)
-scheduled for the MIKID offices in Tucson, Yuma and Phoenix
-the facilitator will need to translate since the trainer does not speak English
- **October 9: 6:30pm** (in English)
-Broadcast from the MIKID Phoenix office

All sessions need to be accessed through a site that has high speed internet connection and where a facilitator for the parents will be present.

Persons who would like to participate from other locations should contact Vicki Johnson at the number below:

Vicki Johnson
MIKID

Mentally Ill Kids in Distress

Ph: (602) 253-1240

Email: V_Johnson@qwest.net

SAVE THE DATE

RECOVERY WALK - EXPO - Youth Rally
Saturday, September 27, 2008

At the Tucson Reid Park • 9am to 4pm

3rd annual recovery walk • resource fair • health screenings and testing • free food • live music • kid's area • performance by C.A.S.T.-Clean & Sober Theatre • raffle prizes • teen prevention activities • massage • reiki • reflexology • and much more fun

For more information call the Pasqua Yaqui Tribal Regional Behavioral Health Authority @ 520-409-8869 or 520-628-3411

